INFORMATION BULLETIN

Province of Nova Scotia
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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Current Labour Force Statistics in Nova Scotia

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ECONOMICS & RESEARCH DIVISION

FOREWARD

The monthly reviews, in summary form, Provincial and National adjustments in the labour force activity during the year including a year-over-year analysis.

The statistics contained in this report are based on information obtained from a sample survey of households conducted by Statistics Canada. Estimates of employment, unemployment and non-labour force activity refer to a specific week covered by the survey each month. The survey sample represents all persons in the population 15 years of age and over residing in Canada with the exception of those in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, Indians living on reserves, inmates of institutions and members of the Armed Forces. These excluded categories amount to about three percent of the total population 15 years of age and over.

The data and analysis presented in the foregoing tables are only intended as an overall insight into labour force activity and composition. A certain amount or more detailed information is available upon request from the Nova Scotia Department of Labour.

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HIGHLIGHTS

	1977 May to June Changes	
NOVA SCOTIA	Actual	Seasonally-Adjusted
Labour Force	+ 7.0	+ 3.0
Employed	+ 9.0	+ 1.0
Unemployed	- 2.0	+ 2.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	- 0.8	+ 0.5
Participation Rate (%)	+ 1.1	+ 0.4

ANALYSIS [1]

For the month of June the unemployment rate for Nova Scotia reported an increase from 10.6 percent in May to 11.1 percent in June. This represents an increase of 0.5 percentage points from May's figure. The rate is over 11.0 percent again for this year which is a good indication of how weak our economy is today. There has only been two months in the new year where the rate has been below the 11.0 percent mark. (January 9.9 percent and May 10.6 percent.) Once again, Nova Scotia cannot move in the right direction if the national rate is increasing. The national average increased by 0.1 percentage points from 7.9 percent in May to 8.0 percent in June. This is the time of the year where the seasonally-adjusted figure should start to fall with all the summer work programs which have been started. However, it may be too early to tell, and July and August will be the final judge of this effect. A year ago at this time, the provincial rate for the seasonally-adjusted was 10.5 percent. The unemployment rate has not shown any great improvement within the last year from June 1976 to June 1977. The economy is still in the downward trend with no recovery seen in the short term future.

The labour force for Nova Scotia reported an increase of 3,000 persons for June. However, only 1,000 persons can be found in the employment figures, while the remaining 2,000 were counted as unemployed. Unlike last month, the economy was not strong enough to employ all of the increase in the labour force. Last month's good report may be just a one time event as the trend of high unemployment rate continues. Only time will tell the true story.

The actual data for Nova Scotia reported a decline in the rate from 10.4 percent in May to 9.6 percent in June. This is a decline of 0.8 percentage points over the month period. A year ago at this time, the actual rate for Nova Scotia was 8.9 percent.

Across the province, all sub-provincial regions reported declines in their rates, except Cape Breton and Halifax Metropolitan Area. Cape Breton had the highest increase with a jump of 2.2 percentage points, while the city only had a marginal increase of 0.2 percentage points. For Cape Breton the labour force increased by 4,000 persons, but only 2,000 persons were counted as employed, and thus causing the unemployed figure to increase by 2,000 persons. The region with the best showing was the Antigonish and Pictou areas (Group 7) as the unemployment rate dropped by 4.5 percentage points. The story for this region was the fact that the labour force remained constant, and employment increased by 2,000 persons. The Valley region (Group 8) also showed an improvement with a fall of 2.5 percentage points as both the labour force and employment

increased by 2,000 persons. The remaining regions had marginal declines for the month of June.

Also, available in the labour force survey is the student data for the summer months. For May in Nova Scotia there was a population of 60,000 students of which 21,000 were in the labour force with 18,000 persons employed for May. (The figures are for returning students.) For any further information, please contact the Department of Labour.

[1] The variances between actual and seasonally-adjusted data from month to month in the labour force survey is attributable to the seasonal factor being particularly strong during specific times of the year. The seasonal factor (as calculated from examining past labour force data for the province) must be removed from the actual figures in order to discern the expected or normal change in the monthly labour force figures relative to those in the previous and preceding months. One can then determine movement in the labour force due to cyclical and irregular economic factors apart from the fluctuations caused by non-economic and seasonal factors such as climate, crop cycles, holidays and vacations.

TABLE 1: - SUMMARY OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR NOVA SCOTIA

(ACTUAL)

	Population (000's)	Labour Force (000's)	Employed (000's)	Unemployed (000's)	Unemployment Rate (%)	Participation Rate (%)
AVERAGE 1973	552	296	276	20	6.8	53.6
1974 - JAN.	559	305	281	24	7.9	54.6
FEB.	560	302	276	26	8.6	53.9
MAR.	561	301	278	23	7.6	53.7
APR.	562	302	281	21	7.0	53.7
MAY	562	315	298	17	5.4	56.0
JUNE	564	323	307	18	5.5	57.6
JULY	566	336	314	22	6.5	59.4
AUG.	567	336	315	21	6.3	59.3
SEPT.	568	319	298	21	6.6	56.2
OCT.	569	317	297	20	6.3	55.7
NOV.	570	318	297	21	6.6	55.8
DEC.	571	314	289	25	8.0	55.0
AVERAGE 1974	565	316	294	22	7.0	55.9
1975 - JAN.	572	302	277	25	8.2	52.8
FEB.	573	301	274	27	8.9	52.5
MAR.	574	300	275	26	8.5	52.4
APR.	575	309	281	28	8.9	53.7
MAY	576	326	299	27	8.3	56.6
JUNE	577	331	310	21	6.3	57.4
JULY	578	337	310	27	8.0	58.3
AUG.	579	337	316	22	6.4	58.2
SEPT.	580	330	304	25	7.7	56.8
OCT.	581	324	302	22	6.8	55.7
NOV.	582	319	296	23	7.3	54.7
DEC.	583	322	295	26	8.2	55.1
AVERAGE 1975	578	320	295	25	7.8	55.3
1976 - JAN.	585	315	287	29	9.1	53.9
FEB.	586	315	286	29	9.2	53.7
MAR.	587	314	284	30	9.5	53.4
APR.	588	319	286	33	10.3	54.3
MAY	589	325	294	31	9.5	55.2
JUNE	590	331 c	302 c	30 c	8.9	56.2
JULY	591	344	311	33	9.6	58.2
AUG.	593	343	310	33	9.5	57.8
SEPT.	594	328 c	297	32	9.4	55.3
OCT.	595	329	298	32	9.6	55.4
NOV.	596	328	294	34	10.2	55.1
DEC.	597	324	292	32	10.0	54.3
AVERAGE 1976	591	326	295	31	9.6	55.2
1977 - JAN.	598	310	276	34	11.1	51.9
FEB.	599	316	274	42	13.2	52.7
MAR.	600	324	281	43	13.2	54.0
APR.	601	324	283	41	12.7	54.0
MAY	602	335	300	35	10.4	55.7
JUNE	603	342	309	33	9.6	56.8

TABLE 2: - SUMMARY OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR NOVA SCOTIA

(SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED)

	Labour Force (000's)	Employed (000's)	Unemployed (000's)	Unemployment Rate (%)	Participation Rate (%)
AVERAGE 1973	296	276	20	6.8	53.6
1974 - JAN.	318	297	21	6.6	56.9
FEB.	316	294	22	7.0	56.4
MAR.	314	293	21	6.7	56.0
APR.	313	293	20	6.4	55.7
MAY	309	292	17	5.5	54.9
JUNE	314	293	21	6.7	55.7
JULY	314	294	20	6.4	55.5
AUG.	318	295	23	7.2	56.1
SEPT.	320	296	24	7.5	56.3
OCT.	317	294	23	7.3	55.7
NOV.	321	297	24	7.5	56.3
DEC.	317	293	24	7.6	55.5
AVERAGE 1974	316	294	22	7.0	55.9
1975 - JAN.	314	293	21	6.7	54.9
FEB.	315	292	23	7.3	55.0
MAR.	313	289	24	7.7	54.5
APR.	319	293	26	8.2	55.5
MAY	321	293	28	8.7	55.7
JUNE	320	296	24	7.5	55.5
JULY	314	290	24	7.6	54.3
AUG.	320	296	24	7.5	55.3
SEPT.	332	303	29	8.7	57.2
OCT.	325	300	25	7.7	55.9
NOV.	322	296	26	8.1	55.3
DEC.	324	299	25	7.7	55.6
AVERAGE 1975	320	295	25	7.8	55.4
1976 - JAN.	328	302	26	7.9	56.1
FEB.	329	304	25	7.6	56.1
MAR.	328	301	27	8.2	55.9
APR.	329	299	30	9.1	56.0
MAY	320	289	31	9.7	54.3
JUNE	323	289	34	10.5	54.7
JULY	322	291	31	9.6	54.5
AUG.	326	290	36	11.0	55.0
SEPT.	327	293	34	10.4	55.1
OCT.	331	295	36	10.9	55.6
NOV.	330	293	37	11.2	55.4
DEC.	328	296	32	9.8	54.9
AVERAGE 1976	326	295	31	9.6	55.2
1977 - JAN.	322	290	32	9.9	53.8
FEB.	326	290	36	11.0	54.4
MAR.	334	295	39	11.7	55.7
APR.	331	294	37	11.2	55.1
MAY	331	296	35	10.6	55.0
JUNE	334	297	37	11.1	55.4

TABLE 3: - ACTUAL AND SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED LABOUR FORCE DATA

		LABOUR FORCE (000's)		EMPLOYED (000's)		UNEMPLOYED (000's)		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		PARTICIPATION RATE (%)	
		Actual	Seasonally-Adjusted	Actual	Seasonally-Adjusted	Actual	Seasonally-Adjusted	Actual	Seasonally-Adjusted	Actual	Seasonally-Adjusted
CANADA	JUNE	10,858	10,578	10,044	9,731	814	847	7.5	8.0	63.0	61.4
	MAY	10,645	10,590	9,821	9,749	824	841	7.7	7.9	61.9	61.6
NOVA SCOTIA	JUNE	342	334	309	297	33	37	9.6	11.1	56.8	55.4
	MAY	335	331	300	296	35	35	10.4	10.6	55.7	55.0
NEW BRUNSWICK	JUNE	278	265	245	231	33	34	11.8	12.8	55.8	53.2
	MAY	269	262	232	230	36	32	13.6	12.2	54.0	52.7
NEW-FOUNDLAND	JUNE	205	198	176	167	30	31	14.4	15.7	54.3	52.4
	MAY	196	197	166	168	30	29	15.3	14.7	51.8	52.1
P.E.I.	JUNE	54	52	51	47	4	5	7.0	9.7	62.1	59.8
	MAY	52	50	47	45	5	5	9.6	10.6	59.6	57.5
QUEBEC	JUNE	2,854	2,770	2,580	2,501	274	269	9.6	9.7	60.1	58.3
	MAY	2,779	2,790	2,505	2,515	274	278	9.9	10.0	58.6	58.8
ONTARIO	JUNE	4,130	4,030	3,849	3,738	281	292	6.8	7.2	65.8	64.3
	MAY	4,938	4,014	3,625	3,728	312	286	7.9	7.1	63.1	64.4

* Due to the small size of the sample, the high percentage of sampling variability rendered such figures unpublishable.

TABLE 4: - LABOUR FORCE BY AGE AND SEX

(ACTUAL SERIES)

(000's)

Labour Force	Canada	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
Total	10,858	342	278	2,854	4,130
Male	6,767	216	176	1,813	2,518
Female	4,091	126	101	1,041	1,612
Age Categories					
15 - 24 years	3,072	104	86	830	1,117
25 and over	7,786	238	192	2,025	3,012
15 - 19 years	1,265	40	30	323	474
20 - 24 years	1,807	65	56	506	643
25 - 44 years	4,816	148	120	1,296	1,842
45 - 64 years	2,783	84	68	687	1,097
65 and over	188	5	5	42	73

The monthly labour force survey estimates that the total labour force in Nova Scotia was 342,000 in June. This level is an increase of 7,000 persons over May's figure, while in comparison to a year ago at this time the labour pool has increased by 11,000 persons. All the age groups reported an increase in their numbers except for the 45 - 64 years age group and 65 and over which remained constant. The age groups with increases were: 15 - 24 years of age, 4,000 persons; 25 and over, 3,000 persons; 15 - 19 years of age, 3,000 persons; 20 - 24 years of age, 2,000 persons; and finally, 25 - 44 years of age, 2,000 persons.

Note: In instances where the numbers do not sum up to the total, small variations are due to rounding procedures.

TABLE 5: - EMPLOYMENT BY AGE AND SEX

(ACTUAL SERIES)

(000's)

Employed	Canada	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
Total	10,044	309	245	2,580	3,849
Male	6,322	197	158	1,654	2,377
Female	3,722	112	88	927	1,472
Age Categories					
15 - 24 years	2,647	88	69	685	969
25 and over	7,397	222	176	1,896	2,880
15 - 19 years	1,045	33	23	253	390
20 - 24 years	1,601	55	46	431	579
25 - 44 years	4,554	136	108	1,210	1,752
45 - 64 years	2,659	80	63	644	1,057
65 and over	185	5	5	42	71

Actual employment during June was 309,000, an increase of 9,000 persons over May's figure. The majority of the increase can be found in the male component of the labour pool with an increase of 6,000 persons, while the female sector had an increase of 2,000 persons.

An examination of employment by age reveals that all age groups reported an increase except for the 65 and over age group which remained constant. The age groups with increases were: 15 - 24 years of age and 25 and over, both with 5,000 persons; 15 - 19 years of age, 3,000 persons; and the groups 20 - 24 years of age, 24 - 44 years of age and 45 - 64 years of age all having an increase of 2,000 persons.

Note: In instances where the numbers do not sum up to the total, small variations are due to rounding procedures.

TABLE 6: - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(ACTUAL SERIES)

(000's)

EMPLOYED (By Industry)	Canada	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
TOTAL	10,044	309	245	2,580	3,849
Goods-producing					
Agriculture	503	6	5	78	139
Other Primary	268	18	13	54	57
Manufacturing	1,951	46	35	581	926
Construction	709	22	21	162	257
Service-producing					
Transportation, Comm. & Other Utilities	865	31	25	214	291
Trade	1,696	53	48	437	627
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	539	13	10	135	226
Community Business & Personal Services	2,778	88	69	733	1,051
Public Administration	736	31	19	187	275

For the goods-producing sector for the month of June in Nova Scotia, all sections reported an increase, except agriculture which had a decrease of 1,000 persons. Manufacturing and construction both had an increase of 2,000 persons while other primary reported an increase of 1,000 persons.

The service-producing sector had two sections with decreases in their numbers. They were trade and finance, with both reporting a fall of 1,000 persons in June. All other sections had increases for June. Transportation and public administration had increases of 2,000 persons, while service had an increase of 1,000 persons.

Note: In instances where the numbers do not sum up to the total, small variations are due to rounding procedures.

TABLE 7: - EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

(ACTUAL SERIES)

(000's)

EMPLOYED (By Occupation)	Canada	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
TOTAL	10,044	309	245	2,580	3,845
Managerial	2,191	66	49	586	866
Clerical	1,736	50	37	462	708
Sales	1,069	32	29	258	405
Service	1,276	44	33	333	474
Primary Occupations	709	22	16	118	190
Processing	1,526	42	35	450	646
Construction	744	28	25	165	264
Transportation	412	16	12	107	146
Materials Handling & Other Crafts	382	12	11	101	150

Total employment in all occupations in Nova Scotia reported an increase of 9,000 persons for June. All occupations had increases except sales and material handling, which remained constant for the month period. The occupations with increases were: managerial, clerical, service and construction. All had an increase of 2,000 persons. Transportation, processing and primary occupations increased by 1,000 persons for the same period.

Note: In instances where the numbers do not sum up to the total, small variations are due to rounding procedures.

TABLE 8

Labour Force Data For Economic Regions
Within Nova Scotia
June, 1977

Unemployment Rates

	June	May	% Change
Economic Region (Group 6)	14.8	12.6	+ 2.2
Economic Region (Group 7)	10.6	15.1	- 4.5
Economic Region (Group 8)	9.6	12.1	- 2.5
Economic Region (Group 9)	8.5	9.3	- 0.8
Economic Region (Group 10)	7.2	7.5	- 0.3
Halifax Metropolitan Area	7.1	6.9	+ 0.2

Participation Rates

	June	May	% Change
Economic Region (Group 6)	51.4	48.7	+ 2.7
Economic Region (Group 7)	50.7	51.3	- 0.6
Economic Region (Group 8)	54.6	53.5	+ 1.1
Economic Region (Group 9)	52.0	50.5	+ 1.5
Economic Region (Group 10)	66.4	65.6	+ 0.8
Halifax Metropolitan Area	67.8	66.7	+ 1.1

Economic Region (Group 6) includes all of Cape Breton Island.
Economic Region (Group 7) includes the counties of Antigonish, Colchester, Cumberland, Guysborough and Pictou.
Economic Region (Group 8) includes the counties of Annapolis, Hants and Kings.
Economic Region (Group 9) includes the counties of Digby, Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne and Yarmouth.
Economic Region (Group 10) includes the county of Halifax.

Total Labour Force Breakdown For Economic Regions*
Within Nova Scotia
June, 1977

	Population (000's)	Labour Force (000's)	Employment (000's)	Unemployment (000's)	Unemployment Rate (%)	Participation Rate (%)
Economic Region (Group 6)	123	63	54	9	14.8	51.4
Economic Region (Group 7)	112	57	51	6	10.6	50.7
Economic Region (Group 8)	67	37	33	4	9.6	54.6
Economic Region (Group 9)	89	46	42	4	8.5	52.0
Economic Region (Group 10)	207	138	128	10	7.2	66.4
Halifax Metropolitan Area	172	117	109	8	7.1	67.8

Economic Region (Group 6) includes all of Cape Breton Island.
Economic Region (Group 7) includes the counties of Antigonish, Colchester, Cumberland, Guysborough and Pictou.
Economic Region (Group 8) includes the counties of Annapolis, Hants and Kings.
Economic Region (Group 9) includes the counties of Digby, Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne and Yarmouth.
Economic Region (Group 10) includes the county of Halifax.

* New feature.

APPENDIX [1]

Statistical Note:

The labour force, employment, unemployment, unemployment rate, participation rate, employment by industry and sub-provincial data contained in the Labour Force Report are estimates, which are derived from Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey. The reliability of these estimates is indicated by a letter. The letter "a" indicates the highest degree of reliability, "b", "c", etc., indicate decreasing levels of reliability. Reliability letters apply to all preceding months' data in each category. In 95 out of 100 cases, the percent of estimates at 1 Standard Deviation are: a ... 0.0-0.5; b ... 0.6-10.0; c ... 1.1-1.5; d ... 2.6-5.0; e ... 5.1-10.0; f ... 10.1-16.5; g ... 16.6-25.0. (Seasonally-adjusted estimates exclude seasonal movements from each month's data but include irregular and long-term cyclical fluctuations.)